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R 2818582 AUG 82
FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8832
UNCLAS LOME 04824
FOR AF/I
F.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, LAID
SUBJECT: AFRICAN HUMAN RIGHTS FUND
REF: STATE 226776

1. EMBASSY LOME SUBMITS FOLLOWING PROJECT FOR FY 82 FUNDING UNDER PROVISIONS OF SECTION 116 (E) OF THE FAA.

2. PROJECT IS DESIGNED TO HELP THE TOGOLESE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND WOMEN'S CONDITION AND THE NATIONAL UNION OF TOGOLESE WOMEN TO CONDUCT AN EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO FAMILIARIZE TOGOLESE WOMEN WITH THEIR RIGHTS ACCORDED UNDER A NEW TOGOLESE LAW ON INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WHICH REGULATES THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THE PROJECT CALLS FOR SUBSIDIZING THE PRINTING OF 8000 COPIES OF THE FULL TEXT OF THE LAW AND 8200 COPIES OF AN EASY REFERENCE GUIDE TO THE LAW FOR USE IN THE EDUCATION CAMPAIGN. COST FOR 8000 COPIES OF THE FULL TEXT OF THE LAW IS $2,000, COST FOR 8200 COPIES OF THE REFERENCE GUIDE IS $8,520, TOTAL PROJECT COST IS $10,520.

3. BACKGROUND JUSTIFICATION: IN JANUARY 1980 THE GOVERNMENT OF TOGO (GOT) PROMULGATED A NEW LAW ON THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE FAMILY WHICH GREATLY ENHANCES WOMEN'S

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PAGE 02 LOME 04824 2818Z
CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS. THE LAW IS BASED ON FOREIGN CODES IN FRANCE, IVORY COAST AND SENEGAL AS WELL AS TOGOLESE CUSTOM AND TRADITION. IT PROVIDES FOR THE A CHOICE OF LEGAL PRINCIPLES WHICH REGULATE THEIR LEGAL STATUS. FOR EXAMPLE, UNDER THE NEW CODE, AT THE TIME

OF MARRIAGE BOTH PARTNERS NOW CHOOSE BETWEEN A MONOGAMOUS OR POLYGAMOUS MARRIAGE. THE HUSBAND CAN NO LONGER MAKE A UNILATERAL DECISION. THE WOMAN, TOO, MUST AGREE TO THE CHOICE. C

4. TO FACILITATE AWARENESS AND EFFECTIVE EXERCISE BY WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF THEIR RIGHTS,
- THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND THE NATIONAL UNION OF TOGOLESE WOMEN HAVE DEVELOPED A REFERENCE GUIDE TO THE NEW LAW TO ACCOMPANY A PRINTED COPY OF THE LAW TO USE IN A NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN. THE GUIDE ALONG WITH A COPY OF THE LAW ITSELF WAS TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO COMMUNITY LEADERS AND GROUPS THROUGHOUT TOGO FOR DISCUS-

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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SION AND GROUP SEMINARS. HOWEVER, THE ECONOMIC SECTION
DID NOT BUDGET FOR THAT ITEM THIS YEAR, AND CONSEQUENTLY
PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THAT DISTRIBUTION. THIS IS A PROJECT
THE GOT WOULD LIKE TO DO, BUT HAS HAD TO GIVE LOW PRIORITY
DURING ITS RECENT BUDGET CUTTING EXERCISE. WAIKEL
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